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SUBJECT: Testimony before Legislature's Environmental Committee Hearing

3/14/2011

RE: HB 6386

I applaud and support your efforts to pass HR 6386.

I would like to see the bill expanded to promote even greater energy conservation while at the same time promoting job growth and increasing state revenue.

This expanded bill would have the potential to affect every homeowner in the state by specifically establishing an **Energy Star Rating Program** for existing homes and condos.

The new program could be simple in nature with the home & condo owners verifying their own energy savings. The owners would be responsible for keeping track of their utility bills and submitting information to the state to accurately verify and document savings. This would keep the administrative cost for the program low. The administrative cost would be borne by the home/condo owner and in return the owner (once the savings are verified) would receive an Energy Star Rating. The program has the potential to save electricity, fuel, and water. A resident qualifying for an Energy Star Rating could receive a certificate along with an Energy Star emblem for window display, and earn extra energy stars for achieving savings above a basic level.

I feel that home & condo owners would seek a prestigious Energy Star Rating for a number of reasons including; pride, recognition of their successful participation in the state energy conservation program, and the potential of increasing their home or condo value.

I live in the second largest condo community in Connecticut called Farmington Woods (FW) located in the towns of Avon and Farmington. Our community of 1,081 individual units has an active Green Team encouraging residents to reduce their carbon footprint by lowering energy consumption. Many residents have achieved significant savings. For more information about our community please visit our web site: www.farmingtonwoods.com. A statewide program would be of great assistance in our efforts to become a more energy efficient community and possibly an Energy Star community.

I feel that this program could promote friendly competition among home & condo owners, communities, and towns. It would benefit not only owners but also companies in the energy conservation business as well as the state of Connecticut. This an a win-win program for the state by promoting energy savings and creating jobs as home and condo owners and communities strive to get a coveted Energy Star Rating.

Thank you for considering this request.

Sincerely,

Maxwell Warren Board Member Farmington Woods